

To: Superintendents, Principals, and Corporation Test Coordinators From: Mary Williams, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning

Charity Flores, Chief Academic Officer

Date: March 5, 2021

Re: Formative Assessment Grant Guidance for School Year 2021-2022

The following guidance supports schools and corporations planning interim assessment administration for school year 2021-2022 through Indiana's Formative Assessment Grant.

- Schools should plan to administer assessments consistently (i.e., avoid making changes to test forms and administration practices) across spring 2021 and fall 2021 as much as possible. Consistency of formative and interim programs will allow schools to compare scores across administrations (i.e., spring 2021 to fall 2021) to understand changes to student performance and growth from accelerated learning opportunities.
- The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is supporting efforts to maintain previous years' funding (\$11,711,344.00 per fiscal year) for the Formative Assessment Grant for school year 2021-2022. The current version of Indiana's biennial budget bill is available here.
 - o Schools should continue to use discretion when planning ahead or entering into contractual commitments until all guidance is finalized at the close of the Indiana General Assembly (April 2021).
- The IDOE is supporting an extension of approved assessment programs for high school to include options more tightly aligned with expectations of a college entrance exam. Details will be delivered in April 2021 noting any changes following the legislative session

Additional guidance for the 2021-2022 Formative Assessment Grant will be available following the close of Indiana General Assembly 2021. Contact Michelle Kemper (mkemper@doe.in.gov) with questions.